

*Note Rule 1.128*

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7-28 and 35-53 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 54-64.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 29-34 as shown on the following pages.

1. (Twice Amended) A method for communication between a network and a host computer having a processor and a sequential stack of protocol layers, the method comprising:

receiving, by said host from said network, a message packet including data and a plurality of headers corresponding to said stack of protocol layers, said data intended for placement in [a destination of ] said host according to protocol processing of said headers,

processing, sequentially as a group, said plurality of headers, including creating a summary of said group of headers, and

choosing, [based] dependent upon said summary, whether to process said packet by said protocol layers or to avoid processing by said protocol layers, for storing said data in a destination in said host.

2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising [sending] transferring said data without said headers to said destination [according to] in accordance with said summary of said group, without processing said headers by said protocol layers.

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4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a communication control block for a connection including said packet, and matching said summary with said communication control block, for [sending] transferring said data to said destination.

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5. (Twice Amended) The method of claim [1] 2, further comprising creating a communication control block for a connection including said packet, wherein [sending] transferring said data to said destination includes guiding said data by said communication control block.

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(Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a second message packet containing additional data and additional headers from said host to said network by referencing said communication control block.

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(Amended) A method for network communication by a host computer having a processor, a memory and a sequential stack of protocol layers, the method comprising:  
receiving by the host from the network a packet including data and a plurality of headers relating to the stack of protocol layers, said [data having a destination in] packet destined for said host,  
categorizing said packet with a hardware logic sequencer, including classifying said headers and creating a summary of said packet, and  
choosing, [based] dependent upon said summary, whether to [send] process said packet [to] with said stack of protocol layers or to bypass said stack of protocol layers by [sending] transferring said data to [said] a destination in said host.

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30. (Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein said packet is a part of a message  
having a plurality of packets, and further comprising:

receiving by said host from said network a second packet of said message,  
said second packet including additional data and additional headers,

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categorizing said second packet with said hardware logic sequencer,  
including classifying said additional headers and creating a second packet summary,

choosing, [based] dependent upon said second packet summary, whether  
to send said second packet to said stack of protocol layers or to bypass said stack of  
protocol layers and send said additional data to said destination, [whereby] wherein only  
one of said first and second packets is sent to said stack of protocol layers.

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31. (Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

sending said packet to said stack of protocol layers,  
processing said packet with said stack of protocol layers and thereby  
creating a context including said destination for said message,

receiving by said host from said network a related packet including  
additional data and additional headers, and

employing said context for sending said [related packet] additional data to  
said destination.

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~~32.~~

(Amended) The method of claim ~~29~~<sup>11</sup>, further comprising creating a context for a message including said packet, said context defining a connection between said host and a remote host, wherein choosing whether to [send] process said packet [to] with said stack of protocol layers or to bypass said stack of protocol layers includes comparing said summary with said context.

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~~33.~~

(Amended) The method of claim ~~29~~<sup>11</sup>, further comprising bypassing said stack of protocol layers by sending said data without said headers to said destination in a form suitable for said destination.

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~~34.~~

(Amended) The method of claim ~~29~~<sup>11</sup>, further comprising:

[sending said packet to said stack of protocol layers,

processing said packet with said stack of protocol layers and thereby

creating a context for said message, and]

creating a context for a message including said packet, said context

defining a connection between said host and a remote host, and

employing said context for transmitting a reply to said network from said

[application space] host, including prepending a transmission header to reply data, said

transmission header including control information regarding each of said protocol layers.

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~~54.~~

(New) The method of claim 1, wherein said destination is a file cache in said

host.

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~~55.~~ (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the host is connected to the network with a network interface device, and said receiving occurs in said device.

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~~56.~~ (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said summary includes information regarding a transport layer header of said headers.

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~~57.~~ (New) The method of claim ~~4~~, further comprising receiving by said host from said network a second message packet, and transferring said second message packet to said destination by referencing said communication control block.

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~~58.~~ (New) The method of claim ~~29~~, wherein said destination is a file cache in said host.

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~~59.~~ (New) The method of claim ~~29~~, wherein the host is connected to the network with a network interface device, and said receiving occurs in said device.

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(New) A method for communication between a network and a host computer having a processor and a stack of protocol layers, the method comprising:

a step for receiving, by said host from said network, a message packet including data and a plurality of headers corresponding to said stack of protocol layers, wherein said data has been sent to the host for placement in the host according to protocol processing of said headers, and said headers are made of a series of bytes,

a step for categorizing said series of bytes to obtain a status of said packet, and

a step for choosing whether to process said packet by said protocol layers, said step for choosing dependent on said status.

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(New) The method of claim <sup>19</sup>~~60~~, further comprising transferring said data to a destination in said host without processing said packet by said protocol layers.

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(New) The method of claim <sup>19</sup>~~60~~, wherein said categorizing said series of bytes includes processing a transport-layer header of said plurality of headers.

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(New) The method of claim <sup>19</sup>~~60~~, wherein the host is connected to the network with a network interface device, and said receiving occurs in said device.

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(New) The method of claim <sup>19</sup>~~60~~, further comprising transferring said data to a destination in said host according to said status.